

REMARKS:

Status Of Claims

Claims 1-7 and 23-30 are currently pending in the application with claims 1 and 24 being independent.

Office Action

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the specification. The specification has been amended as suggested by the Examiner.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-5, 23-27, and 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Mola et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,125,030. The Examiner also rejected claims 5-7 and 28-29 under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mola in view of Funk et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,681,176. Applicant respectfully submits that the currently pending claims distinguish the present invention from Mola, Funk, and the other prior art references of record, taken alone or in combination with each other.

Claim 1 recites “a portable navigational device” and “a mounting assembly for mounting on a support pillar of the vehicle and sized and configured to removably receive the navigational device, ***wherein the navigation device remains visible when received within the mounting assembly*** and is functional as a navigation device both when received within the mounting assembly and when being used independently of the mounting assembly”, emphasis added. Claim 24 recites “a stand-alone hand-held portable navigational device” and “a mounting assembly for mounting on an existing support pillar of

the vehicle and sized and configured to mate with the support pillar and removably receive the navigational device, ***such that the navigation device remains visible and fully functional when received within the mounting assembly***, emphasis added.

Mola teaches an overhead console that is specifically designed to hide his navigation unit. See Abstract. When Mola's door is open, his navigation unit is not within his console. Only when Mola's door is closed is his navigation unit within his console. However, in this state, Mola's console is specifically designed to hide his navigation unit. Mola's entire invention is designed to hide his navigation unit. Thus, Mola explicitly teaches away from the claims. As a result, the present rejections cannot be sustained.

Claim 4 recites "a docking station mounted within the base". Claim 27 recites "a docking station mounted within the base and designed to conform to the shape of the navigation device". The Examiner asserts that Mola's unnumbered cavity meets this limitation. However, a cavity is not ***mounted***, nor is a cavity ***designed*** to conform to anything. Thus, Mola's cavity cannot anticipate this limitation. As a result, Mola does not anticipate the currently pending claims and the present rejections cannot be sustained.

Claim 23 recites "wherein the support pillar runs along and directly above the vehicle's windshield". Claim 26 recites "wherein the support pillar is a pillar directly above and runs along the vehicle's windshield". Nothing in Mola suggests mounting anything to a support pillar running "along the vehicle's windshield". As a result, Mola does not anticipate the currently pending claims and the present rejections cannot be sustained.

Claim 6 recites “wherein the docking station includes a speaker”. The Examiner acknowledges that Mola fails to teach this limitation. Page 6 of the March 9, 2007 Office Action. In an attempt to cure this defect, the Examiner points to Funk’s teaching of a possible speaker in his hand-held unit 42. However, neither prior art reference teaches a speaker ***in a docking station***, as claimed. Thus, the Examiner has failed to cite a reference that teaches this limitation. As a result, the present rejection cannot be sustained.

The remaining claims all depend directly or indirectly on claims 1 or 24, and are therefore also allowable.

Any additional fee which is due in connection with this amendment should be applied against our Deposit Account No. 501-791. In view of the foregoing, a Notice of Allowance appears to be in order and such is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By: /David L. Terrell/
David L. Terrell, Reg. No. 50,576
Garmin International, Inc.
1200 East 151st Street
Olathe, KS 66062
(913) 397-8200
(913) 397-9079 (Fax)